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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2004

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SENATE ACCEPTS ALLARD AMENDMENT STRENGTHENING AUTHORITY OF NEW NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Senate has accepted an amendment to the U.S. Intelligence Reform Bill, S 2845, introduced by U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) to strengthen the authority over personnel that is to be exercised by the new National Intelligence Director.

“The 9/11 Commission recommended the appointment of a strong “quarterback” to coordinate our intelligence efforts. My amendment clarifies and defines the new National Intelligence Director’s authority over personnel, specifically granting the authority to terminate employees when it is in the best interests of our nation,” Senator Allard said.

“In addition, it authorizes the National Intelligence Director to set regulations specifying the exercise of this authority,” the Senator said.

“The legislation we now have under consideration must ensure that the National Intelligence Director is armed with both authority and flexibility to enforce the highest performance and ethical standards across the intelligence community,” Senator Allard said.

“S 2845 brings imposes bold and sweeping changes on our critical national security institutions. Accordingly, it is essential that we get this right. More is at stake than simply moving boxes around on an organization chart. The decisions we make will be far-reaching and have significant consequences,” Senator Allard said.

“Our armed forces are not only the largest provider of intelligence information, they are its largest consumer. Our nation’s military, the most powerful and proficient ever assembled, hinges on a seamless and unbroken flow of intelligence information,” the Senator said.

The Senate is expected to vote on the entire bill, S 2845, later this week.

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